

Remarks

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. The Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's helpful comments with respect to R², R⁹ and R¹⁵. The Applicants have amended Claim 1 so that groups R², R⁹ and R¹⁵ are specified as representing selected groups from formula VI, which is found, for example, on page 19 of the Applicants' Specification. Specific reference to R² may be found on that same page, while specific reference to R⁹ may be found in the last three lines of page 20 and specific reference to R¹⁵ may be found in the first three lines of the first full paragraph of page 22. Entry into the official file is respectfully requested.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the changes to Claim 1 with respect to groups R², R⁹, and R¹⁵ directly address the Examiner's comments with respect to indefiniteness. The formulae are now very specifically defined. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 – 5, 10 – 22, 36, 38 – 39, 41 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Harris. The Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 is not anticipated by Harris. In that regard, Harris uses biphenyl dicarboxylic chloride. As a consequence of the use of such biphenyl dicarboxylic chloride, mechanical strength of the resulting material was poor and it is also expensive. In sharp contrast, Claim 1 excludes the presence of biphenyl groups as is particularly shown with respect to groups R², R⁹ and R¹⁵. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that Harris does not anticipate those rejected claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

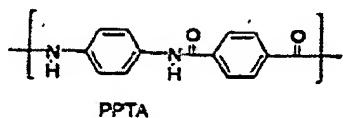
Claims 1 – 3, 10 – 15, 22, 36 and 38 – 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Murakami. The Applicants respectfully submit that Murakami is inapplicable for essentially the same reasons as discussed above with respect to Harris. In particular, Murakami employs a biphenyl dicarboxylic chloride. The Applicants claim amended Claim 1 does not include that structure. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that Murakami is inapplicable.

Claims 1, 9, 11 – 14 and 20 – 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Handa. The Applicants respectfully submit that Handa is also inapplicable to those rejected claims. In that regard, Handa uses para-phenylenediamine and 3, 4-diamino-diphenyl ether as the raw material. When these materials are used to synthesize a polymer, it becomes clear that the light transmission is less than 80% because the resulting polymer is both colored and opaque. Thus, the product is quite different from that recited in those rejected claims. In any event, the Applicants respectfully submit that R¹⁰ from the Applicants' structure does not contain the required ether linkage and, as a consequence, Handa does not anticipate those rejected claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

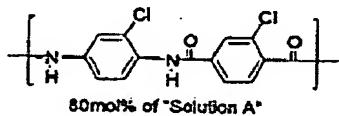
Claims 1, 7 – 9 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by Elfort. The Applicants respectfully submit that Elfort is also inapplicable. Elfort relates to porous-semipermeable membranes and provides a description of meta-oriented polyamides. However, despite the presence of structures 1, 2 and 4, as noted in the Examiner's helpful comments, there is no structure VI as recited in the Applicants' claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that Elfort is inapplicable under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims, 1,7, 9 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Tsukuda. The Applicants respectfully submit that Tsukuda is inapplicable since the polymer has a light transmission that is less than 80%. In that regard, Tsukuda uses 2-chloro-1, 4-phenylenediamine as the raw material. That raw material is colored. In other words, it is not transparent. Therefore, the polymer obtained from 2-chloro-1, 4-phenylenediamine is inherently colored itself. Thus, the light transmission inherently is less than 80%. This may be found in Example 5 of Tsukuda, which uses polyparaphenylene terephthalic amide (PPTA). PPTA is a yellow and opaque raw material well known as Kevlar (registered trademark of DuPont). The example used with this PPTA corresponds

to the Applicants' Comparative Example 1. The light transmittance at 450 nm of Comparative Example 1 is 64.0% and it is extremely low. Such a low level of light transmittance originates from the structural unit, and the film of Example 5 of Tsukuda explicitly does not satisfy the Applicants' claimed definition.



Further, Example 1 of Tsukuda uses solution A containing 80 mol% substitute of PPTA and, because of its molecular structure, the light transmittance at 450 nm never exceeds 80% (never satisfies the Applicants' claimed definition). Also, in other examples and comparative examples, a similar solution A is used. Thus, the Applicants' claimed definition cannot be satisfied.



In Tsukuda, there is no description with respect to light transmittance and there is no teaching or motivation to try to employ a specified structure to increase the light transmittance. Therefore, even if there are various descriptions with respect to raw material, they are merely raised as general chemical compounds. As a consequence the Applicants respectfully request that the rejection based on Tsukuda be withdrawn.

Claims 1 – 3, 10 – 15, 22 – 36 and 38 – 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Yamaoka. The Applicants respectfully submit that Yamaoka is inapplicable for the same reasons as set forth above with respect to Harris and Murakami. In other words, Yamaoka employs biphenyl dicarboxylic chloride. The Applicants R², R⁹ and R¹⁵ do not include biophenyl groups. Accordingly, Yaamoika is inapplicable.

Claims 1, 22, and 45 – 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over a combination of Vargo with Harris. The rejection frankly acknowledges that Harris does not disclose the use of polyamide as part of solar batteries, optical fibers and optical wavelengths. Thus, the rejection turns to Vargo to make up for that deficiency. The problem is that even if one skilled in the art hypothetically combines Vargo with Harris, the result is that the polymer would still have the biphenyl dicarboxylic chloride of Harris which has already been demonstrated to be inapplicable. Thus, the combination would result in something different from what the Applicants claim. Withdrawal of the rejection is accordingly, respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the entire Application is now in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


T. Daniel Christenbury
Reg. No. 31,750
Attorney for Applicants

TDC:lh
(215) 656-3381